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# Message Text

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45
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

SR-02 ORM-03 AF-10 EUR-25 RSR-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /132 W
---------- 085461
R 291326 Z JUN 73
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4291
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
OAMEMBASSY BEIRUT 2088
USINT CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PINT, JO, IS
SUBJ: KNESSET ADOPTS ABSENTEE PROPERTIES LAW

1. ACCORDING TO JERUSALEM POST ISRAELI KNESSET ADOPTED ON JUNE 27 ABSENTEE PROPERTIES LAW TO COMPENSATE ARAB RESIDENTS OF EAST JERUSALEM FOR PROPERTIES CONFISCATED IN ISRAEL BEFORE 1948. LAW REPORTEDLY WILL ALSO COMPENSATE OTHER ARABS IN ISRAEL WHO, FOR ANY REASON, WERE NO COMPENSATED FOR PROPERTIES LOST AT THAT TIME. RECIPIENTS OF COMPENSATION WILL BE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE IN CASH THE FIRST IL 10,000 DUE THEM, WITH BALANCE TO BE PAID IN FORM OF STATE BONDS LINKED TO COST OF LIVING INDEX BEARING 5 1/2 PERCENT INTEREST OVER 15- YEAR PERIOD. CASH PAYMENTS WILL BE MADE IN 1975.

2. ORIGINAL BILL DRAWN UP IN JUNE 1971 AND FINAL DRAFT TABLED IN KNESSET IN JUNE 1972. CHANGES FROM ORIGINAL VERSION INCLUDE PROVISION TO PAY COMPENSATION TO TENANTS AS WELL AS OWNERS OF PROPERTIES AND REDUCTION IN TERM OF PAYMENT OF STATE BONDS FROM 20 TO 15 YEARS.
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3. COMMENT: IT NOW REMAINS ONLY TO PROMULGATE THIS MUCH-
DISCUSSED LAW, AND PRESUMABLY TO ANNOUNCE PROCEDURES FOR MAKING
APPLICATION, ETC. DURING PERIOD OF ITS PREPARATION, PREDIC-
TIONS OF ARAB REACTION VARIED WIDELY DEPENDING ON VIEW- POINT
OF COMMENTATOR. OUR GUESS IS THAT SMALL CLAIMS, SUCH AS
TENANT CLAIMS, WILL BE MADE IN SOME NUMBERS-- THESE WOULD BE
MAINLY LESS WELL OFF ARABS WHO NEED MONEY. THERE WILL BE
RELUCTANCE ON PART OF LARGER PROPERTY OWNERS TO BE AMONG FIRST
TO APPLY. AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION PLUS PAYMENT IN ISRAELI BONDS
DO NOT CONSTITUTE ATTRACTIVE ENOUGH INDUCEMENT TO OVERCOME
READILY THE ARAB OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO RELINQUISHING
RIGHTS TO PROPERTY TO ISRAELIS.
DAY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** n/a
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 29 JUN 1973
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1973JERUSA00702
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** n/a
**Errors:** n/a
**Film Number:** n/a
**From:** JERUSALEM
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
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**Page Count:** 2
**Previous Channel Indicators:**
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** n/a
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Authority:** garlanwa
**Review Comment:** n/a
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 09 OCT 2001
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review History:** RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <07-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>
**Review Markings:**

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Referrals:** n/a
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**Secure:** OPEN
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**Subject:** KNESSET ADOPTS ABSENTEE PROPERTIES LAW
**TAGS:** PINT, IS, JO
**To:** AMMAN
BEIRUT
CAIRO
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
TEL AVIV
USUN NEW YORK

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**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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